The Work of the Holy Spirit

15 July 2018

Introduction

- The Holy Spirit has been active in regard to the universe and people.
- Since Pentecost, His ministry to believers has changed.
- In the Old Testament he had a 'touch and go' ministry, but at Pentecost He came to indwell believers and abide in the Church.
- Judges 6:34, 1 Samuel 16:14, Judges 11:29, Psalms 51:11, John 14:16

In relation to Creation

- The Holy Spirit was active in creation
- Genesis 1:2 also see Job 26:13-14,
 Psalm 104:30, Job 33:4
- Psalm 33:6 the 'breath' of the Lord here being the Holy Spirit

In relation to the preservation of the universe

- Isaiah 40:7 The Spirit creates and reserves. He also destroys at will
- Psalm 104:30 By the Word of God and the Spirit, the world is renewed

- John 16:8-11
- He will convince the world of:
 - sin because they do not believe in Jesus Christ
 - Righteousness because Christ was completely righteous
 - Judgment for Christ has already been judged (at Calvary)
 - It is the work of the Holy Ghost to constantly bear witness of Christ and Calvary - through the testimony of believers and the conscience of men through the Word of God

In relation to the scriptures

- The Holy Spirit is the author of the Scriptures (2 Peter 1:20-21)
- The Holy Spirit is also the interpreter of the Scriptures to us (John 16:14, John14:26)

In relation to Jesus Christ

- A. Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit, literally born of the Spirit. Luke 1:35.
- B. He was led of the Spirit into the wilderness after the baptism to be tested, Matthew 4:1.
- C. Jesus was anointed by the Spirit for service, Acts 10:38.
- D. Jesus was crucified in the power of the Spirit, Hebrews 9:14.

In relation to Jesus Christ

- E. Jesus was resurrected from the grave by the power of the Holy Spirit. Romans 1:4, 8:11.
- F. Jesus instructed His disciples and Church through the Spirit, Acts 1:2.
- G. Jesus gave the Holy Spirit to the believers, Acts 2:33

- 1. He assures the believer of sonship and makes him son-like, Romans 8:16-17, Galatians 4:6
- 2. He seals the believer as a pledge or earnest of future glory, 2 Corinthians 1:22, Ephesians 1:13-14.
- 3. He fills the believer with Himself, giving a victorious life, Acts 1:4-8, Ephesians 5:18.
- 4. He sanctifies the believer, sets him apart unto holiness, 2 Thessalonians 2:13, 1 Peter 1:2
- 5. He abides continuously with the believer. John 14:16.

- 6. He takes the Word of God and teaches the believer John 14:26, 1 Corinthians 2:13.
- 7. He brings to remembrance the things that we have faithfully learned, John 14:26.
- 8. He testifies to us regarding the Saviour. He constantly reveals Christ, John 15:26
- 9. He guides the believer into all truth, John 16:13. This is the cure for error.
- 10. He takes our bodies and glorifies Christ in and through them, John 16:14.

- 11. He takes the things of Christ, spiritual things and reveals them to us, John 16:14.
- 12. He gives us power to obey God in the time of weakness and strengthens us, Ezekiel 36:27.
- 13. He gives the believer power to obey the truth irrespective of cost, 1 Peter 1:22.
- 14. He gives the believer freedom from the law of sin and death. Romans 8:2.
- 15. He takes the weak believer and fulfils the law of righteousness in him, Romans 8:3-4

- 16. He gives the believer power to please God by granting victory over the flesh. Romans 8.
- 17. He will quicken this mortal body of ours, Romans 8:11.
- 18. He gives power to mortify the deeds of the body, Romans 8:13.
- 19. He directs the believer in his prayer life to pray in the will of God. Romans 8:26-27
- 20. He gives the believer victory over the terrible desires of the flesh, Galatians 5:16-17.

- 21. He leads the believer out from under the law to liberty in Christ. Galatians 5:18.
- 22. He is the One that causes us to bear the fruit of the Spirit in Galatians 5:22-23.
- 23. He gives us a holy walk as we are led by the Holy Spirit, Galatians 5:25.
- 24. He assists us in putting away the things that displease our Father God. Ephesians 4:30-32.
- 25. He puts Satan to flight by lifting up a standard against him, James 4:7, Isaiah 59:19

- 26. He gives rest to the soul that is trusting in the Lord. Isaiah 63:14.
- 27. He makes Jesus Christ Lord (master and king) in our private lives, 1 Corinthians 12:3.
- 28. He gives liberty, freedom to the child of God, 2 Corinthians 3:17.
- 29. He gives divine love to the children of God, Romans 5:5, Colossians 1:4-8.
- 30. He gives fulness of joy, complete happiness and satisfaction to the saints, Acts 13:52.

- 31. He strengthens the inward man with spiritual power power to resist, Ephesians 3:16
- 32. He gives righteousness, peace and joy to the Lord's children, Romans 14:17 and 15:13.
- 33. He reveals, interprets and applies the deep things of God, 1 Corinthians 2:9-14.
- 34. He empowers us to impart truth to others, Acts 1:8; 1 Corinthians 2:1-4, 1 Thessalonians 1:5
- 35. He inspires worship and adoration of God Himself, John 4:23-24, Philippians 3:3.

- 36.He comforts, Acts 9:31
- 37.He calls men in Christ and directs them in their service. Acts 8:27-29 and 13:2-4.
- 38.He leads in the details of the believer's life and service, Matt. 4:1; Romans 8:14, Acts 10.
- 39.He makes genuine our access to the Father in heaven, Ephesians 2:18.
- 40.He makes known our redemption rights, our possessions in Christ, 1 Corinthians 2:12.

This list of forty points was compiled by H. S. Miller in "The Christian Workers' Manual." This list is long but it doesn't even include the gifts of 1 Corinthians12 that the Spirit gives to the Church. The Holy Spirit does so much!

Other works of the Holy Spirit

- 1. He strove with men in Genesis 6:3, attempting to turn them from sin to righteousness.
- 2. He enlightened men, Job 32:8; the Holy Spirit gave them understanding.
- 3. He endued men with skill. Exodus 31:2-5
- 4. He helped men do ordinary tasks like blowing a trumpet. Judges 6:34 (Gideon).
- 5. He gave physical strength to Samson, Judges 14:6.

Conclusion

Let us praise the Lord for the faithful ministry of regeneration by the Spirit (John 3)

Let us praise the Lord for the gifts that He graciously gave us, (1 Corinthians 12:7-11)

Review Questions

- 1. Is it right to pray the prayer of Psalm 51:2b today? Why?
- 2. Give two verses that teach that the Holy Spirit was active in creation.
- 3. What verse teaches that the Holy Spirit renews and preserves the universe?
- 4. Of what 3 things does the Holy Spirit convict the world?
- 5. Name two ministries of the Holy Spirit in regard to the Scriptures.
- 6. List 7 things that the Spirit did for the Saviour.
- 7. Can you add one point to the list of 40 things that the Spirit does for believers?
- 8. What are the 5 most precious works of the Spirit to you personally?
- 9. List 5 of the Spirit's works toward believers mentioned in the Book of Romans.
- 10. List 5 other works of the Holy Spirit.